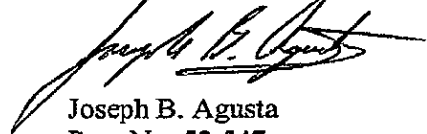


Remarks

This preliminary amendment is being filed in the present application which is a continuation of application Serial Number 09/598,084 filed on June 21, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,654,870.

Claims 1-20 have been canceled. Claims 21-46 have been previously canceled. New claims 47-58 have been added. Claims 47-58 are presently pending.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph B. Agusta
Reg. No. 52,547
5015 Southpark Drive, Suite 230
Durham, NC 27713
(919) 806-1600